

Coin Board News

Number 2 — April 2008

My latest list #103 of coin boards for sale has been released. It includes a broad mixture of items for all budgets and tastes. Call or email me immediately for any items you want to reserve. By the way, those of you who don't have email are not completely at a disadvantage when I issue my price lists. I send out the printed copies two-three days prior to issuing a bulk email to my online customers. Hard copy recipients still need to contact me by phone to avoid missing out on desired items. All the best pieces from my last list sold to those who called or emailed within the first 48 hours of its release.

In my travel to coin shows I managed to acquire a very rare bound volume of Whitman First Edition boards from 1936. In comparing this against the ones already in my collection, I discovered that I'd made a slight error in my book. I had cataloged bound volume WBV1c as including Lincoln Penny board W1¢D1d, so when the newly acquired volume featured W1¢D1f, I thought I'd made a new discovery. It turns out that both the one in my book and the new one were identical and instead included W1¢D1f, so you should update your books to reflect this correction.

About the same time that I acquired this duplicate bound volume, a similar one appeared on ebay. In very nice condition overall, it was unfortunately marred by a previous owner's having taped newer coins to the backs of several boards as the existing openings became filled. This wouldn't have been so bad if the coins had been left in place or removed carefully, but at some point the extra coins were carelessly ripped from the back paper, leaving huge scars of torn paper that seriously impaired the value of the volume. I wanted to purchase this album, but I had to do so at a price reflecting its serious damage and also the fact that it might turn out to be a duplicate of one already in my collection. Ultimately, I was the under-bidder, and I believe the person who did acquire it still made a good bargain for himself. I certainly hope that it was one you reading this newsletter.

Speaking of ebay, I've noticed something new in recent coin board listings. Some sellers are now referring to my book and my articles, in one case actually posting an image of a notice that appeared in *The Numismatist*. I've yet to see more than an occasional inclusion of my catalog numbers and grading, but I imagine that will change as the book gets in the hands of more sellers.

One thing that hasn't changed is the difficulty in acquiring new inventory. A lot of collectors and dealers now know that I'm the go-to guy when looking to sell coin boards, but nearly everyone offers the same common boards of which I already have multiple duplicates. The difficulty in replacing scarce items has led to my decision to **reduce my discount** on orders of \$50 or more **from 10% to 5%**. My replacement cost for worthwhile items is going up, but this will enable me to hold the line on list prices.

I'll be presenting a slide show on coin boards during this month's convention of the Central States Numismatic Society. This event is being held at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, Illinois, and my program will be at 3pm on Friday, April 18 in Room 40. As always, I'll be having a free drawing at the end of my program in which three persons will each win a vintage coin board.

That's what's new in the world of coin board collecting. Here's hoping everyone finds something of interest in the new list.

Dave